

Course Description

IDS1107 | Tools for Success | 1.00 credit

This course is for students majoring in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields (STEM). Students will learn writing, research, presentation, and technological skills necessary for success in STEM-related disciplines. Course topics include learning styles, collaborative skills, power study techniques and will use related technologies related to STEM.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will be able to develop learning skills necessary for STEM-discipline success by:

- 1. Identifying various learning styles as they relate to STEM disciplines
- 2. Identifying their particular learning style and applying them to their own STEM classes
- 3. Recognizing and applying practical study skills in classroom and laboratory settings
- 4. Applying active reading and comprehension skills
- 5. Utilizing specific STEM-related reasoning skills and test-taking strategies

Competency 2: The student will be able to develop STEM-discipline-related coping skills by:

- 1. Identifying various methods of working with faculty, particularly those in the STEM disciplines
- 2. Identifying campus resources for support in math and science
- 3. Identifying various ways of working with other students in classroom and science laboratory settings
- 4. Developing various methods for achieving and maintaining good psychological health
- 5. Demonstrating appropriate classroom and laboratory behavior

Competency 3: The student will be able to describe the connections between the biweekly Departmental Science Forums and / or STEM field experiences and their academic coursework by:

- 1. Writing a reflection paper to describe the connections between their biweekly science forums and/or field experiences
- 2. Presenting connections between the forums/field experiences and their life, coursework, and college experience

Competency 4: The student will be able to begin to compile a portfolio of STEM-focused academic and personal achievements, which will be developed and fine-tuned over the next two years by:

1. Assembling an electronic portfolio, which will be fine-tuned over the next two years

Competency 5: The student will be able to develop proficiency in the technology-appropriate to courses in the STEM fields by:

- 2. Demonstrating proficiency with STEM course-related laboratory-computer interfaces, word-processing, email, presentation software, and concept mapping software
- 3. Creating an original webpage as part of their electronic portfolio
- 4. Demonstrating proficiency in podcast basics Revision

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Use computer and emerging technologies effectively

Updated: Fall 2025